

Message Text

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14

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00

USIE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 ACDA-19 IO-15 CCO-00 USSS-00

AID-20 INRE-00 NEA-10 EUR-25 DRC-01 /165 W

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O 120345Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 342

C O N F I D E N T I A L RABAT 4660

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y (TEXT PARA ONE LINE 10)

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: XI MO MOPS

SUBJECT: MIDEAST SITUATION

1. I WAS SUMMONED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY AT 0230 THIS MORNING TO SEE ACTING FOREIGN MINISTER MUHAMMAD BAHNINI. LATTER APOLOGIZED FOR LATE HOUR AND SAID MILITARY EVENTS IN NEAR EAST TAKING ALARMING TURN. IT APPEARED UNITED STATES INTERVENING ON SIDE OF ISRAEL. MOROCCANS DESIRED PEACEFUL AND EQUITABLE SOLUTION. GIVEN LONG TIES OF FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN OUR TWO COUNTRIES, AND GIVEN PERSONAL FRIENDSHIP BETWEEN KING HASSAN AND PRESIDENT NIXON GOM ASKED THAT UNITED STATES DO ITS BEST TO BRING ABOUT SUCH SOLUTION AND NOT THROW ITS WEIGHT INTO SCALES ON SIDE OF ISRAEL. SYRIA AND EGYPT HAD ACTED AS THEY HAD FOR REASONS OF PRIDE AND BECAUSE THEY DESPAIRED OVER PEACEFUL SOLUTION. MOROCCANS WOULD HAVE WISHED THAT EVENTS NOT COME TO PRESENT PASS, BUT HAVING ARRIVED THERE HOPED THAT UNITED STATES WOULD SUPPORT EQUITY AND JUSTICE IN SEARCH FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT.

2. I ASKED WHAT, SPECIFICALLY, HAD PROVOKED MOROCCAN
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ALARM OVER UNITED STATES' ROLE. HE SAID THAT THERE WERE

REPORTS WE WERE SUPPLYING EQUIPMENT AND VOLUNTEERS TO ISRAEL. VOLUNTEERS ONE THING, BUT EQUIPMENT SOMETHING ELSE AGAIN. I SAID I ASTONISHED BECAUSE WE HAD SEEN NO REPORT OF ANY SIGNIFICANT MATERIAL AID TO ISRAEL ON PART USG SINCE OCTOBER 6, WAS THERE SOME REPORT IN PARTICULAR MOROCCANS HAD IN MIND? BAHNINI SAID MOROCCANS HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT WE HAD SUPPLIED ISRAELIS WITH NEW AIRCRAFT DURING PAST 48 HOURS.

3. I TOLD BAHNINI I WOULD TRANSMIT MOROCCANS CONCERNS TO WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY AND WOULD COMMUNICATE ANSWER TO HIM AS SOON AS RECEIVED.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT MAKE POINT OF IT, BAHNINI INDICATED HE ACTING ON ORDERS FROM KING. PRESUME THERE HAS BEEN BAD NEWS FROM SYRIAN FRONT, PERHAPS IN FORM HEAVY MOROCCAN CASUALTIES. ALTHOUGH IT RAMADAN AND EVERYBODY BUT INFIDELS UP FOR MOST OF THE NIGHT, ASSUME BAHNINI WOULD NOT HAVE CALLED ME AT THIS TIME UNLESS THEY THOUGHT SITUATION SERIOUS.

5. ARE THERE ANY ASSURANCES I CAN PASS TO BAHNINI? REQUEST REPLY BY 0630 GMT IF POSSIBLE.
PARKER

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30 JUN 2005

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